



**Regular 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter meeting** was called to order at 9:01 am. **Present were:** Bill Pinchak, President; Matt **Wagner**, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; Ken **Cearley**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President; Scott **Petty**, Director; Jeff **Goodwin**, Director; Robert **Moen**, Treasurer; Natalie **Wolff**, Secretary. Also present were: Terry **Whigham**, Endowment Committee Chair; Melony **Sikes**, Past President/Planning Committee Chair.

**Pinchak** called meeting to order and a quorum was established. Pinchak welcomed everyone who was present.

**Pinchak** reviewed the agenda and asked for any additions/corrections needed; two items were added as "Other" items to New Business—Prescribed Burn Meeting and Sunset Hearing. The board approved the agenda with a motion by **Petty** and a second by **Cearley**. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**MINUTES:** Minutes were emailed out to the Board on 4/8/2010. The Board discussed the minutes as sent out. Motion by **Goodwin** to accept minutes as read. Motion seconded by **Petty**. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer's Report, plus additional attachments, provided and reviewed by **Moen**. Discussion held on information and items presented in attachments; i.e. investment fund balances, portfolios, etc. **Moen** also had a report to give on Frost Bank accounts.

**Current Balances as of (4/19/10):**

TSSRM General Fund	\$30,212.57
<i>(Usable bank balance = \$10,610.68 )</i>	
<i>(Internal allocation to GOF Investments = \$20,000.00)</i>	
<i>(Accumulated surplus [estimated] = \$8,970.62 )</i>	
TSSRM Endowment Fund	\$44,907.18
TSSRM MSF	\$69,559.24
TSSRM Bill Wyche MSF	\$56,775.17
TSSRM YACEF	\$15,101.00

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was submitted by **Cearley**. Motion seconded by **Wagner**. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Moen** then gave the Frost Bank report concerning the investment funds, specifically the Endowment Fund. As reported last meeting, banking fees were raising and changes were to be made. **Moen** reported Frost's alternative; switch to financial planning which can eliminate/reduce fees and would serve as a 3<sup>rd</sup> party, managing thru brokerage efforts. It was also reported all investment funds are in good order and alterations to these funds are being made to reflect the recent banking changes. Discussion was **tabled** until Endowment Fund Committee Report.

**NEWSLETTER:** **Goodwin** reported the next edition would be the Rancher Edition, which articles are needed for ranch or ranching topics and/or specific topics in ranching. These articles need to be submitted by May 15<sup>th</sup>. **Goodwin** also praised Alice Westmoreland's assistance and role in the Newsletter, while also mentioning a replacement for editor will be needed, as he will be retiring from that duty.

**WEBSITE REPORT:** **Wolff** reviewed the current status, as she and **Goodwin** will continue to be the website coordinators and relay any information needed to Ann Tanaka for website updates. **Coordinator and newsletter announcement emails will be sent out; draft letters to be sent to Wolff and Goodwin.** A motion by **Petty** to start the process of looking into new positions for the newsletter and website was seconded by **Goodwin**; **approved unanimously.**



**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Endowment Fund was set up to raise money for projects for TSSRM; profits paid into General Fund. The committee proposed the section should roll any revenue into principal to allow growth of the fund and feed into the Gen Fund if a special project arises. The question of what categorizes a project as "special" came up, which led to the discussion of all committees should develop/revises their guidelines and objectives. It was also proposed from the Edowment Comm. to incorporate a fundraiser committee to make investment decisions. It was discussed and ultimately decided not to have committee members dabble in investment decisions and keep those decisions being made with a 3rd party (such as Frost).

A motion was made by **Pinchak** to appoint the Endowment Comm. to contact Weish Memorial Comm. to discuss development of guidelines, goals, objectives, and policy (using the handbook as a guide) and come up with draft guidelines for next meeting. This motion was **withdrawn** after discussing this has already taken place.

After discussing committee and Frost Bank proposals, a new motion was made by **Pinchak**, for Moen to quickly migrate funds from the trust to the brokerage account (Frost proposal) with investment and portfolio content to be consistent with the transfer. A second to the motion was made by **Cearley**. The motion passed unanimously. **Pinchak** will also be writing letters to the scholarship committee chairs to review their guidelines in light of the section's changing investments from a trust to brokerage approach; which offers them opportunity for revisions for their goals and objectives.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**ACTIVITIES & EDUCATION:**

- Workshop plans for Odessa meeting are underway

**ANNUAL MEETING:**

- **Schimcek's** email was addressed; room rates and various hotel items are taken care of, seminars are being worked up, specifically a Young Professional seminar. Technical tours are also being lined up.
- **Whigham**, for the Sponsorship Committee, reported donations at about \$4200; at that time, a few board members popped out some cash donations as **Pinchak** challenged the group, adding to the growing amount.

**AWARDS:**

- **Reinke** submitted his report via email, calling for nominations for deserving individuals for all awards. He and his committee have also been contacting members to solicit nominations.

**COLLEGE ACTIVITIES:** No report.

**ENDOWMENT:** Subject was discussed in Old Business agenda item

**GRASS ROOTS AWARDS:**

- **Hohlt** reported via email, trying to form a responsible committee; with only 2 members agreeing to serve at the time.
- There are leads for nominations, which committee members are following up on; any suggestions are welcomed.

**MEMBERSHIP:**

- **McClintock** reported current membership at 437 active members as of 4/12/10; at which they are continuing with recruitment efforts and expired member renewals. Assistance is appreciated.

**NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS:**

- **Conner** reported via email, stating a committee has been formed, potential candidate lists are being gathered, and ballot finalizations are being established.



- Additionally, the committee would like to put on a landowner/practitioner workshop on the latest rangeland issues: carbon sequestration, invasive species, wind power, climate change, etc. Ideas are welcomed.

**ORM:** Goodwin reported needing new ranch nominations.

#### **PLANNING:**

- Sikes reported the outcome of "desired places for annual meetings" questionnaire, distributed at 09AM. She has discussed these locations (Kerrville, Abilene, Waco, Fredericksburg, Amarillo, SA, Alpine) with core members. Sikes is also accepting bids for 2013 AM and is soliciting members to have all info ready for the Odessa AM.

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS:** No report.

**PUBLICATION AWARDS:** No report.

**RESOLUTIONS:** No report.

#### **SCHOLARSHIP:**

- Stockett reported via email, identifying a student with a range degree to receive the TSSRM scholarship. The scholarship assembly is June 11<sup>th</sup> and more information will be passed along as it becomes available.

**YOUNG PROFESSIONALS:** Keyser reported the committee is working on developing new informational handouts.

#### **YOUTH ACTIVITIES:**

- It was reported that Lubbock Boys Ranch wants to send some boys to the Youth Range Workshop. Cearley will be in contact with the group on those reports.

**Kothmann** reported via email that our Texas delegates to the 2010 High School Youth Forum at the February SRM meeting in Denver performed at a high level and represented our Section well. Erin Reid from Young County was elected to be the 2011 President of the High School Youth Forum. Ely Long from Taylor County (formerly Bosque County) won first place in the HSYF Presentation Competition while Erin Reid won second place and Gabe Jennings from Mason County tied for fifth place out of 25 presentations. Thank you to the Board of Directors for funding the travel expenses for these outstanding young people, and their dedicated chaperones, Dr. Barron Rector and Mr. Hoyt Seidensticker.

Our committee members have been working to publicize the 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Youth Range Workshop, to be held on June 20-25, 2010. Plans are coming together for the event, including sponsorships, staffing, and agenda items. As of today, 8 applications have been received.

- In late March and early April, 250 letters with Youth Range Workshop applications were mailed to Texas County Extension Agents and 270 letters with applications were mailed to Agricultural Science Teachers.
- Texas County Extension agents were notified about the Youth Range Workshop by email in mid-March. This audience included agents for agriculture, natural resources, 4-H and some Horticulture or Family Consumer Science agents.
- Hoyt Seidensticker mailed letters to TSSRM directors, officers, committee chairs and chair elects asking them to help recruit participants. He also mailed letters to all of the 2008 and 2009 YRW participants to ask them to help us in the recruiting effort. Hoyt has also worked with the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board field representatives, and provided them with YRW info to pass along to all the Soil and Water Conservation Districts.
- Dr. Bob Knight and Dr. Barron Rector handed out letters to coaches at the March 27<sup>th</sup> Range Judging Clinic held at TAMU. YRW Brochures were distributed to youth participants at the Fort Worth Livestock Show Range and Pasture Plant Contest in January and the Houston Livestock Show Plant Contest in early March.



- Information is also being distributed as committee members assist with youth events and plant identification contests across the state. Lee Knox reports 29 participants from 5 county 4-H clubs or FFA chapters participated in the Big Country Farm, Ranch, and Wildlife Expo Range Plant Identification Contest in Abilene.
- At the Region II Wildlife Alliance for Youth competition in San Angelo, I gave an overview of the YRW experience and Alfredo Munoz distributed applications to coaches and students. Over 80 youth from across western Texas participated in the event.
- Most of the YRW Director staff has been confirmed including Cabin Directors Kelly Jones, Mary Beth Bauer, Derek Scasta and Aaron Sumrall.
- Keith Blair has been working on the agenda for Wednesday trip to Mason County. The Thursday trip to the Kerr Wildlife Management Area was been confirmed with Area Manager Donnie Frels. Dr. Jason Johnson has been confirmed for the Tuesday trip to work with Dr. Jake Landers and Family (June 22, 2010).
- The three High School Youth Forum delegates and the 2009 4-H State Record book winner in Range Management, Wesley Crockett, all have all confirmed their intent to serve as the four Junior Directors.
- Letters have been sent to the 4 Regional GLCI Liasons and Ag Workers Insurance requesting their continued support as Sponsors of the Day, and other past contributors are being contacted by our committee members to request sponsorship of awards, materials, and tuition.

Please feel free to contact me at (325) 212-8944 or [forked\\_lightning\\_ranch@yahoo.com](mailto:forked_lightning_ranch@yahoo.com) for further information or with any questions you may have.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Photo Contest:** Wolff relayed information to the board concerning the two ladies presently looking to help with the Photo Contest. *Both ladies' information will be forwarded to Pinchak so he can contact them and allocate job titles.*
- **Administrative Handbook:** There was a motion by Cearley and a second by Petty to accept the updated Administrative Handbook. *Motion passed unanimously.*
- **Midland Community National Bank Account:** There was a motion by Pinchak and a second by Goodwin to approve the bank account being opened at Midland Community National Bank. It was discussed that the account was needed to arrange funds for the Odessa AM. *Motion passed unanimously.*
- **Sunset Hearing:** It was brought to the BOD's attention that the State Board is seeking support for their brush program in response to the Sunset Hearing's ultimate decision. TSSRM has always had a friendship with the State Board, as they regularly deal with similar issues. *It was discussed that Pinchak will compose a letter stating TSSRM's support of the State Board and their conservation efforts for treating resource concerns and ecological function, not just one specific program.*
- **Prescribed Burn Symposium:** Goodwin reported GLCI taking lead on project. Focus groups were established; a survey on perception of burn bans from multiple entities in all counties in Texas had a 65% response rate. Focus groups consist of technical (developing tools for determinations), training (county to commissioners), and policy (codes and regulations for state and counties).

Future Meetings:      3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr    **Friday July 23 @ 9am @ Mason Mountain WMA, Mason TX**  
   4<sup>th</sup> Qtr    to be set at next meeting.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was announced by Goodwin and seconded by Whigham. *Motion passed unanimously.*  
Meeting Adjourned at 12:09 pm.

Thank you for attending and participating in the meeting.

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Natalie G Wolff, Secretary